

THE HON'BLE Ms. JUSTICE G. ROHINI

WRIT PETITION NO.25081 OF 1999

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DATED: 13-04-2007

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Between :

The Kodad STD (PCO) Attendants Welfare Association,
Rep. By its Secretary, R. Brahmananda Reddy ... Petitioner

And

Department of Telecommunications,
Rep. By its Accounts Officer (TR)
Office of the Telecom District Manager,
Nalgonda District. ... Respondent

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ORDER :

The petitioner is an Association constituted for the welfare of the Attendants of Public Telephone Booths. It is stated that the members of the petitioner association were permitted by the Department of Telecommunications for locating STD public telephone booths at several places in Kodad, Nalgonda District pursuant to the self-employment scheme made by Government of India. On the basis of the permissions granted, separate agreements were entered into between the Department of Telecommunications and the members of the petitioner association on payment of requisite security deposits. While so, the members of the petitioner association were individually served with notices by the respondent calling upon to pay an additional security deposit of Rs.10,000/- purportedly on the basis of average monthly calling rate. Aggrieved by the same, this writ petition has been filed contending *inter alia* that under the guidelines there is no such provision for enhancing security deposit and at any rate without giving any opportunity to the petitioner association to raise their objections against the enhancement, the respondent ought not to have unilaterally enhanced the security deposit. Hence, this writ petition.

This Court while directing Rule Nisi, by order dated 8-12-1999 granted stay of collection of security deposits under the impugned notices.

The said order continued to be in operation throughout and no

counter-affidavit has been filed by the respondent.

Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and in the absence of any counter-affidavit by the respondent, I deem it appropriate to dispose of the writ petition granting leave and liberty to the members of the petitioner association to submit their objections, if any, to the impugned communications under which they were required to pay additional security deposit, within four weeks from the date of receipt of this order. On receipt of such objections, the respondent shall consider the same and pass appropriate orders in accordance with law. Till such time, the impugned demand notices shall not be given effect to. No costs.

G. ROHINI, J.

Dt. 13-4-2007

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